## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 01435 250815Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 COME-00 EB-08 /019 W

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R 241632Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 133

**UNCLAS TUNIS 1435** 

DEPT FOR NEA/AFN

E.O.11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR EINV BAGB TS

SUBJ: VISIT OF AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL

- 1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING TO EUGENE GRASBURGE AND EZRA MERRILL, AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL OF NEW YORK, WHO ARE PRESENTLY IN CAIRO.
- 2. QUOTE: RECEIVED KEN MUELLER'S TELEX IN WHICH HE REQUESTED OUR AND GOT'S CONCURRENCE IN VISIT TO TUNISIA FOR FIVE DAYS BEGINNING MARCH 6.
- 3. WE HAVE CONTACTED EZZEDDINE CHELBI AND ABDELMAJID SLAMA. BOTH SAID THEY WOULD WELCOME SEEING YOU. SLAMA TOLD US HIS OFFICE COULD ARRANGE TO PROVIDE NEEDED INFORMATION ON MILK, FISHERIES AND CATTLE. CENTRE NATIONAL INDUSTRIEL COULD PROVIDE STUDIES ALREADY COMPLETED ON TAMATO CANNING POTENTIAL. SLAMA, HOWEVER, WILL BE OUT OT TUNISIA MARCH 5-17. MTIBAA CAN PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN SLAMA'S ABSENCE.
- 4. IN RELATED VEIN WE ALSO TALKED TO NEJIB BEN DEBBA, DIRCTOR OF DEVELOPMENT, BDET (NATIONAL INDUSTIRL DEVELOPMENT BANK). HE IS MOST ANXIOUS TO DISCUSS POSUNCLASSIFIED

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SIBLE SMALL OR MEDIUM SIZED FROZEN FOOD EXPORT OPERATION WITH ABC. BEN DEBBA, HOWEVER, WILL BE OUT OF THE COUNTRY AND RETURNS MARCH 13.

5. WE ALSO HAVE SCHEDULING PROBLEMS AS COMMERCIAL OFFICER GALLAGHER WILL BE BUSY MARCH 6 AND MARCH 8-10 WITH U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE TRADE PROMOTION ACTI-

VISITES.

6. GIVEN ABOVE SCHEDULING PROBLEMS WE THINK IT BEST TO DELAY YOUR ARRIVAL FOR A FEW DAYS IF POSSIBLE--UNTIL THE WEEK OF MARCH 13 WOULD BE IDEAL. IF THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE, YOU WILL CERTAINLY BE WELCOME MARCH 6 SINCERELY, EDWARD W. MULCAHY, AMBASSADOR. UNQUOTE.

7. FOR NEA/AFN: PLEASE FORWARD ABOVE MESSAGE TO KENNETH MUELLER, PRESIDENT, AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL, NEW YORK, 212-682-2730.
MULCAHY

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TAGS: EAGR, EINV, BAGB, TS, (GRASBURGE, EUGENE), (MERRILL, EZRA)

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